

The Chain of Light

Tazkira
Masha'ikh-e-Qaadiriyah
Razviyah



12th Noor

Mujaddid-e-Islam Hazrat Shaykh

Jaafar Abu Bakr Shibli

رحمۃ اللہ علیہ

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رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ

His Position in the Silsila: Waaqif-e-Rumooz-e-Khafi Wa Jali, Hazrat Shaykh Ja'far Abu Bakr Shibli رحمہ اللہ is the twelfth Imam and Shaykh of the Silsila Aaliyah Qaadiriyyah Barakaatiyyah Razviyyah Nooriyyah.

Birth : He was born in Samrah in the year 247 Hijri [Masaalikus Saalikeen vol.1 pg.316]

Name : His name was Jaafar, and he was also known as Abu Bakr. The name Jaafar bin Yunus is engraved on his blessed shrine. His title was Mujad'id. [Masaalikus Saalikeen]. He was known as shibli, because he came from a place called Shibla or Shabeela.

Education: He says as follows about himself, *"I studied and attained the knowledge of Fiqh and Hadith for thirty years. The sea of knowledge flowed in my heart. I presented myself before many of those who were known as people of great knowledge and learning. I asked them to bless me with the knowledge concerning the journey towards Allah, and yet not one of them knew anything about what I asked. They all said, 'that the sign of something will be found in something, but there is no sign of Ghaib' I heard their words and was amazed. I said, you are all in the dark and Alhumdulillah, I am the light. I then thanked Almighty Allah, and then gave my Wilaayat to a thief, until he did with me as he did."*

His Shaykh-E-Tariqat: He is the Mureed and Khalifa of Sayyidut Taaifa Hazrat Junaid-e-Baghdadi رحمہ اللہ.

His Excellence: He was the Muqallid of Hazrat Imam Maalik رحمہ اللہ and he knew the entire Mu'atta of Imam Maalik رحمہ اللہ by heart. He spent most of his time in the Ibaadat of Almighty Allah. He visited all the great Masha'ikh of his era, and spent time with all of them. He gained a very exalted position in spiritualism. His spiritual position had become so great, that the ordinary mind could not understand him. It is stated that for a very long

time, he lived under a tree. He would walk around the tree, making the Zikr of “Hoo – Hoo” People who saw him, asked him concerning his condition. He said, “There is a dove on this tree which is saying “Coo – Coo” I am thus following its pattern and making the Zikr of Hoo Hoo. Those who saw this noticed that the dove would not remain silent until he stopped his Zikr. For as long as he was in Zikr, the dove also went on cooing.

His Position In The Court Of The Prophet ﷺ: Hazrat Abu Bakr bin Mujahid رضي الله عنه was a very great saint and a great Imam of Hadith and Fiqh. Many Ulama and Masha'ikh sat in his gatherings to listen to the knowledge he imparted. Once Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli رضي الله عنه went to one of his gatherings. On seeing Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli رضي الله عنه, he immediately stood up in respect. He embraced him with great love, and then kissed his forehead. A man from those present at the gathering (who did not know Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli) stood up and said, “Huzoor! This man is a deewana (One who does not seem to be in the right state of mind), why do you treat him with such respect?” Hazrat Abu Bakr ibn Mujahid رضي الله عنه said, “O People! I have done with him as I saw the Prophet ﷺ do with him.” He then narrated a dream by saying, “I dreamt that it was the most exalted gathering of the Prophet ﷺ. Then, when Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli رضي الله عنه entered the gathering; the Prophet ﷺ stood up, and kissed his forehead. I said, Ya Rasool'Allah ﷺ, Why such a great amount of love and affection for Shibli? And the Prophet ﷺ said, ‘After Namaaz, he reads from Laqad Jaa Akum Rasoolun until Azeem, and he then says Sallal laahu alaika Ya Rasool'Allah three times.’” [Raah-e-Aqidat Pg.19/20]

Once, Hazrat Imam Abu Bakr Shibli رضي الله عنه was accused of being insane (as none knew the reality of his spiritual condition). He was admitted to a mental facility for treatment. Some of his disciples and well wishers heard of this and came to meet with him. He asked who they were and they said

that they were amongst those who had great love for him. He then launched stones at them, which caused them to run away from him. He said, *“If you are from amongst those who love me, then why do you run away from me when I launch stones at you? Those who truly love somebody will not run away from his pain.”* [Shahratul Kaamileen pg.206]

His Shaykh’s Love for Him: Once a few disciples of Hazrat Junaid-e-Baghdadi رحمہ اللہ were seated together praising Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli رحمہ اللہ. They said, *“There is none that is more respected and honest amongst us than Abu Bakr Shibli رحمہ اللہ.”* As they were having their discussion, Hazrat Junaid-e-Baghdadi رحمہ اللہ entered and said, *“What are you discussing about Abu Bakr Shibli? All that you have said is improper. He is not as good as you all say. Now remove him from the room.”* After Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli رحمہ اللہ left the room, Hazrat Junaid-e-Baghdadi رحمہ اللہ addressed his disciples and said, *“I have a hundred times more respect and love for Shibli, compared to that which you were discussing. When you were praising him in his presence, it was like you were striking him with a sword. It was for this reason, that I had no option but to say what I said, so that it may be a shield against that which you were saying, if not he would have been devastated (for he could not accept being praised, due to his humility).”* [Kashful Mahjoob PG 193]

His Karaamats: Once Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli رحمہ اللہ had taken very ill. Ali bin Esa informed the Khalifa of this, and the Khalifa sent a Christian doctor to treat Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli رحمہ اللہ. This doctor was the royal specialist physician. He treated Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli رحمہ اللہ, but he could not help in making him feel better.

The doctor once said to Hazrat, *“If I felt that your cure was in a piece of my flesh, then I would not even mind cutting of a piece of flesh.”* Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli رحمہ اللہ said, *“My medicine is in something else.”*

The Doctor said, *“In what is it?”* Hazrat said, *“In this, that you leave kufr and accept Islam.”* The doctor immediately read the Kalima and accepted Islam. When the Khalifa heard of what had happened, he began to weep. He said, *“I thought that I had sent a doctor towards one who was ill. Little did I realize that I had sent one who was ill towards a doctor.”* [Masaalikus Saalikeen vol.1 pg. 323]

Hazrat Ambaazi رحمۃ اللہ علیہ states that once he wore a beautiful shawl and went to visit Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli رحمۃ اللہ علیہ. When he reached there, he saw that Hazrat was wearing a very beautiful hat. On seeing the hat, he thought that the hat would be very well suited for him. He wished that the Shaykh would present the hat to him. He was still thinking of this, when Hazrat asked for his shawl. The Shaykh then took both the chaadar and the hat, and threw them into a fire. He said, *“With the exception of the Deedar of Almighty Allah, a person should not have any other desire in his heart.”* [Tazkiratul Awliyah]

Gems of Wisdom: The Shaykh once said to his mureeds, *“If you come to me on a Friday after one week, and you find that you thought of other than Allah during the week, then you should know that you have the desire of the world in your heart. What can the one who desires the world gather for the hereafter? Thus, for as long as you are in the world, prepare for the hereafter.”* He said, *“It has never been such that I remained hungry for Allah, and Allah had not entered the Noor of secrets into my heart.”* He said, *“A Sufi is one who is away from the people and close to Allah.”* He said, *“If a person claims to have love, yet he spends his time in other things, then, he does not desire his beloved, but he desires something else, in other words, he is making a mockery of his beloved.”* He said, *“Love means, that you should give up everything for the sake of the beloved.”* He said, *“Shariat is this, that you should follow it, Tariqat is this, that you should desire and Haqeeqat is this, that you should see.”*

Wisaal: Various highly spiritual incidents occurred during the time of his wisaal. Many people asked him to read the Kalima and one person proclaimed the Shahaadat aloud, so as to remind him. On hearing this, he said, *“The dead have come to remind the living.”* He passed away on the 27th of Zilhajj, 334 Hijri on the eve of a Friday, at the age of 88 years.

His Khulafa: The names of only two of the Khulafa of Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli رحمہ اللہ could be found.

1. Hazrat Khaja Abdul Waahid Abul Fadhl Tameemi رحمہ اللہ
2. Hazrat Abul Hassan رحمہ اللہ.

After His Wisaal: After his wisaal, a pious man saw him in his dream, and asked, *“Huzoor! What transpired with the Angels of the grave?”* He said, *“When the angels came to me, and asked about my Lord, I said, ‘It is He, who created Adam عليه السلام and commanded the Angels to prostrate before him. All of them prostrated but Iblees, who turned his face away from the command of Allah and showed pride. At that time, I was in the spine of Hazrat Adam عليه السلام.’”* The Angels said, *“He has answered on behalf of all the children of Adam عليه السلام.”* [Shajratul Kaamileen Pg.203]

Mazaar Shareef : His Mazaar Shareef is in Samrah, which is in Baghdad Shareef (Iraq).